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Floriferis ut apes in ſaltibus omnia libant,
Omnia nos.

EDINBURGH:

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Torbay the ſame day, and ſtood in queſt of the enemy with a preſt ſail.

Accordingly he came up with them on the 20th, and about two o' clock the action began. He immediately ordered his captain to carry him along-ſide the the French admiral, who crouded all the ſail he could to get off, after a few broad-ſides. About four o'clock the Formidable ſtruck; and a little after the Theſée and Superbe were ſunk, with their crews. About five the Heros ſtruck, but it blowing hard, no boats were got on board of her. In the night both the Heros and Soleil-Royal run a-ſhore, and were deſtroyed. On the Britiſh ſide, the Eſſex and Reſolution ſhared the ſame fate. During the action, Adm. Hawke had ſeveral ſhips of the enemy upon him at once, but all of them had cauſe to repent it. The Vice admiral was crouding to his aſſiſtance, when night put an end to the engagement. Eight of the enemy's ſhips got into the river Vilaine, where the Admiral prepared to purſue, and attempt to deſtroy them, but found it impracticable. The remainder ſtood off to ſea, and afterwards got into Rochefort. The Britiſh ſquadron conſiſted of 23 ſhips of the line, and ten frigates; that of the French of 21 ſhips of the line and three frigates. Having thus cruſhed this formidable armament at once, and deprived the enemy of the means of invading us. Adm. Hawke returned ſoon after to England, where he received the thanks of the Houſe of Commons for his great and faithful ſervices. Adm. Boſcawen ſucceeded him in the command, and ſet out to take charge of the fleet.

The French thus beat in every quarter, their miniſtry contrived every ſcheme to raiſe money to anſwer the immediate exigencies of the ſtate; but in vain. Numbers of edicts were iſſued for levying new taxes, but the Parliament refuſed to regiſter them; ſo that his Majeſty and theſe patriots were again likely to go by the ears. In this deſperate criſis, it was reſolved that the plate ſhould be coined, and the King ſet the example himſelf. Accordingly, a vaſt quantity of plate was poured into the mint from all quarters. But notwithſtanding they ſet about coining it with the greateſt diſpatch; after paying a part of their foreign ſubſidies, they ſtill find themſelves plunged in extricable difficulties.

We have now taken a review of the moſt important tranſactions that have happened during the courſe of the year, in which the luſtre of the Britiſh arms has ſhone with redoubled ſpendor. In every expedition they have proved ſucceſsful, and victory has followed their flags and banners wherever they have been diſplayed. Our Admirals and Generals ſeem to have vied with one another which of them ſhould exert themſelves moſt for the honour of Britain, and reap the moſt fruitful harveſt of laurels. The proceedings at the attack of Quebec and Guadaloupe, can hardly be paralelled in the annals of any country; both of them inacceſſible by nature and rendered impregnable by art, ſeemed to bid defiance to the united force of the fleets and armies of Britain; yet thoſe gallant officers who undertook their reduction, perſiſted, in ſpite of art and nature, in their reſolutions to conquer or die, with that firmneſs which is requiſite to inſure ſucceſs in every arduous attempt. After reducing almoſt all the colonies of France, they afterwards well nigh annihilated her navy. Her ſhips burnt and taken, her trade ruined, her treaſures drained, her bankruptcy flagrant, ſhe has only one alternative left, of pouring her troops into Germany, as her laſt deſperate effort. But it is to be hoped, that proper precautions will be taken to curb their progreſs, and thereby compel her to a ſpeedy and laſting peace.——In the mean time, we cannot omit to congratulate our gallant countrymen, who have had ſo large a ſhare in the honour of the Britiſh conqueſts. On all occaſions they behaved with that intrepidity and reſolution, which ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed their anceſtors, and marked them out as a brave and a warlike people; and it is not to be doubted, but the enſuing campaign will give an additional luſtre to their renown.

GENERAL

General CONTENTS for 1759,

JANUARY.

SPEECH of Paulus Publicola on the Habeas Corpus Act 1 45
Mercury's search after Concord and Diſcord 4
The diſtinction between pride and vanity 7
Eſſay on the ſublime in writing 9
The miſchiefs ariſing from impriſonments for debt 10
Obſervations on national faſts 12
Reflections on the K. of Spains melancholy 13
Dr. Robertſon's character of Mary Q. of Scots 14
Experiments and improvments in agriculture 16 48, 105, 160
Compariſon between antient and modern education 18
Propoſal for promoting diſturbance at the theatre 19
Abſtract of the proceſs againſt the Portugueſe conſpirators 20
A new experiment on Vitriol

POETICAL ESSAYS.

To a young lady who wept on hearing the author read Paradiſe loſt 28
The reflection 29
To Mr. Robert Mylne, on his obtaining the firſt prize for drawing in architecture ib
Elegy on A—C— of H—n 30
Epitaph on Jane Ker ib
— on the Rev. Mr. Hervey ib
To the author of the ſacred poems 31
L'Hyver ib
Hymn to learning 32
On happineſs ib
The pudding ib

HISTORY.

Affairs in Ruſſia and Germany 33
Funeral proceſſion of M. Keith 36
Affairs in Italy, France and Holland 37
Account of the taking of Fort du Queſne 38
Affairs in England and Scotland 39
Captures, marriages, births, deaths 41
New books with remarks 42

FEBRUARY.

ACount of an eſſay on brewing, with the principles of the art 51
M. Clairaut's memoir concerning the expected comet 54
The life of Magliabechi, a famous Florentine 55
Criticiſm on a paſſage in Virgil 57
Propoſals for the relief of inſolvents 59
Happineſs of Britain, compared with other countries 60
Fatal inſtances of the Portugueſe notions of honour 63
Conſiderations on the regiſtring bill 64
Reflections on common boarding ſchools 65
Account of a cat that lived 25 months without drinking 67
Inſtance of the tranſmutation of grain ib
Method of recovering perſons who are drowned 68
Time conſidered as the repreſentation of human life 69
Hints to provide againſt accidents at ſea 70
A letter from Biſhop Atterbury to his ſon ib
Obſervations on the manners, language, &c. of the N. American Indians 71
Remarks on a French book, entitled De l'Eſprit, condemned at Paris 73
Cauſes of our want of ſeamen 75

POETICAL ESSAYS.

On the defeat at Ticonderoga, by an American Lady 77
On a country ſeat ib
A ſimile 78
Doll common, a fragment ib
The invitation 79
Pindaric ode on wine 80
On Belinda's crowning the author with laurel ib
By Dr. B—y, to a young lady on Valentine's day in a pair of gloves ib

HISTORY.

Affairs in Turkey and Ruſſia 81
Great preparations in Germany 82
Motions of the Auſtrians and Imperialiſts 84
Operations of the Pruſſians and Swedes 85
Preparations of the French and Allies 86
Affairs in Spain, Holland and America 87
Accounts of the taking of Gaudaloupe 88
Affairs in England and Scotland 90-91
Captures by the Engliſh and French 93
Marriages, births, deaths, promotions 94-95
New books, with criticiſms and extracts ib

MARCH.

SPeeches of Marcus Aulicenſis, and Lucius Sobrinus, againſt the Habeas Corpus act 102-103
Life of Mr. Robert Hill, a learned taylor in Bucks 108
Letter on Hutcheſon's philoſophy and divinity 110
Surpriſing inſtance of the force of imagination in quadrupedes 114
A true and affecting ſtory of a young lady 116
Memoirs of Field-Marſhal Keith 118
—His gallant behaviour at the battle of Hoch-Kirchen 122
—His death, and character 123
A curious political allegory ib
A fable by the celebrated Linnæus 123
The ſtory of Molly Gentle 126
Depravity of manners a proof of a flouriſhing ſtate 128
Modern philoſophy explained for the ladies 130
Strength and velocity of the Oſtrich 131
Deſcription and natural hiſtory of Gaudaloupe 137

POETICAL ESSAYS.

An eſſay on angling 133
On the late Mr. James Clydſdale 134
The progreſs of poetry ib
Monſ. Brocks à ſon lit: with an imitation 135
On ſolitude ib

The self-lover 136
The rake ib
Coriana vindicated ib
HISTORY.
Affairs in Russia and Poland 139
Motions of the armies in Germany 141
Affairs in the East Indies ib
French account of the taking of Fort St. David, with the journal of their squadron 142
Affairs in America, and England 143-44
—— in Scotland 146
British and French captures 157
Marriages, births, deaths 148
Last-will of Gen. Hawley 149
Military promotions 150
New books, with criticisms and extracts ib
APRIL.
SPeeches of Publius Publicola and Valerius Vefer, for the act in favour of the Habeas Corpus act 157-59
Demonstration of the existence of GOD 163
On methodists and enthusiasts 167
Life of Christopher Count Schewerin 169
— his funeral, and personal description 175
— his eminent talents, and unaffected piety 176
An account of the expedition to Fort du Quesne 177
The advantage of raising flax-seed 180
New anecdotes concerning Dean Swift ib
Account of a magnificent Dutch marriage 182
Remarks on the stage 183
Observations on proposals for insolvents 187
A family receipt by an old physician 188
POETICAL ESSAYS
The progress of poetry 189
The apology to the author of Douglas 190
A mid-night walk among the ruins of St. Andrews 191
The man of sorrow ib
On the death of George Frederic Handle 192
The Vicar of W——d ib
On the Vestal's engagement with the Belona ib
HISTORY.
Motions of the Prussians and Austrians 194
Pr. Henry's expedition into Bohemia 195
Affairs in Sweden and Pomerania 196
Operations of the French and Allies 197
Battle of Bergen 198
Dutch proposals for an accommodation 200
British answer to these proposals 201
Arrival and speech of the Dutch deputies 202
Affairs in England and Scotland 203
Marriages, births, deaths 204
Promotions, and new books with extracts 203
MAY.
THE adventures of Imlac the poet 212-84
Idler: On historical painting 214
A method of propagating flower-trees and flowering-shrubs by the bud 225
Essay on the origin and progress of preaching 227
Reflections on modern wars 232
Remarkable recovery of a peasant, seemingly frozen to death 234
New observations on cometical astronomy 235
Difference between spoken and written language 238
Surprizing instance of the sense of smelling 241
A fable adapted to the times 242
The last speech of an old English lion 243
Description of the Sanglin or Cagvi Minor 244
POETICAL ESSAYS.
To my garden 246
On the death of Prof. David Young ib
An Ode on Truth 246
Decree of Apollo; or, poetical vengeance against impenitent scribblers ib
Description of a ninety-gun ship 247
A monumental inscription ib
A tale ib
HISTORY.
Motions of the Russians 248
—Of the Prussians and Austrians 249
Affairs in Westphalia, Sweden and Denmark 254
— in Italy and Portugal 255
— in Spain and France 256
— in Holland 257
Engagement between the French and English squadrons in the East-Indies 259
Progress of the British at Gandaloupe 260
Transactions in England and Scotland 262-63
British and French captures 264-65
Marriages, births, deaths 266
Promotions, and new books, with remarks 267
JUNE
HIstory of the art of engraving 276
Essay on political liberty 278
Learning of France and England compared 280
Description of the Cor-mass at Dunkirk 281
Of the cure of wounds in the magnetical way 289
On the mutability of public opinion 291
Casual disappointments in expected pleasure 293
Description of several places in the Levant 294
Act of parliament for the relief of debitors 295
Method of distilling fresh-water from sea-water 296
Criticism on Mason's caractacus 297
Etymology of the word bumper 302
On the eloquence of the pulpit 303
Mathematical question 304
Grants for the year 1759 305
POETICAL ESSAYS.
On the death of a young lady 306
The cork-screw ib
Miss Airy to Mr. Copywell ib
To my garden, by the same 307
On a young lady ib
The pleasures of poverty 308
Epigram on the wall of a wretched inn ib
The contrast, an acrostick ib
HISTORY.
Motions of the Russians and Prussians 309
Operations of the Prussians and Austrians 310
Progress of the French and Allies 312
Affairs in France 314
Accounts of the taking of Gaudaloupe 316
Affairs

GENERAL CONTENTS, 1759.

Affairs in N. America 321
— in England and Scotland 322
Marriages, births, deaths, new books, ib 323

JULY.

Memoirs of John Lewis de Maubert, publiſher of the Bruſſels gazette 325-96-456
Eſſay upon pleaſures and entertainments 328
Of the Toros, or bull-feaſt, in Spain 330
On the proſperity or declenſion of a ſtate 332
Memoirs of the famous Holberg 336
Life of the late Gen. Meyer 337
Curious anecdotes of M. de Voltaire 344-408
Idler. On poſthumous publications 347
Account of the lateſt diſcoveries at Herculaneum 348
Advantages of old age 349
Account of an extraordinary heat in Georgia 353
Letters on the Roman antiquities, and temples of the antients ib
A remarkable diſorder of Ld. Clarendon's father 357
Anſwers to the mathematical queſtion (304) 358
A new queſtion ib

POETICAL ESSAYS.

The two travellers; a fable 359
To independence ib
Ode to health 360
Verſes to Rurelia ib
On the gallant behaviour of the Monmouth 361
To Miſs Harriot Airy ib
Woman; or the contraſt of wine ib
Tranſlation of Horace. B. iii. ode 9. 362
Ode to a thruſh ib
Tranſlation of the Latin epigram (308) ib
Another tranſlation of it ib

HISTORY.

Affairs in Turkey 363
Battle betwixt the Ruſſians and Pruſſians 366
Motions of the Pruſſians and Auſtrians 367
Operations of the French and allied armies 370
Account of the battle of Thornhauſen 373
Expedition againſt Havre de Grace 375
Affairs in England 376
— in Scotland, and Britiſh captures 378-79
Marriages, births, deaths, and promotions 381
New books with remarks and extracts 384

AUGUST.

Hiſtory of the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, with occaſional reflections 389-449-505-561
Curioſities in the Muſeum of Dreſden 399
Maupertuis' letter to the K. of Pruſſia on the progreſs of the ſciences 404-59-512
Magnetiſm and polarity given to braſs 407
Obſervations upon the Goſſamer 415
A journal of three days employment 416
A parody on news-papers 418

POETICAL ESSAYS.

On reading Belleiſle's letter to Contades 420
Soliture; a poem, written at Fort-Auguſtus 421
Concluſion of the eſſay on angling 422
To the author of the above eſſay 423
Tranſlation of the ſoliloquy in Paſtor Fido ib
An exploit of Cupid ib
On the battle of Thornhauſen 424
Charles and Anna ib
Anacreon's manner imitated ib
Epigram ib

HISTORY.

Operations of the Pruſſians and Ruſſians 425
Account of the battle of Cunnersdorf 426
French account of the battle of Thornhauſen 427
Pr. Ferdinand's orders of thanks 430
Accounts of the taking of Niagara 434
Defeat of the French army, and taking of Crown-Point 435
The life and trial of Eugene Aram 436
— his artful ſpeech to the judge and jury 438
Adm. Boſcawen's defeat of M. de la Clue 442
Marriages, births, deaths, promotions 443-44
New books with remarks and extracts 445

SEPTEMBER.

Reaſons why it never rains at Lima 461
A deſcription of the pictures in the Vatican 465
Vindication of the honours of yeomanry 468
Eſſay on the character of a gentleman 470
On the neceſſity of a peace 471
St. Pierre's character of Oliver Cromwel 473
On the tranſmutation of corn 474
A catalogue of books of humour, at auction 475
Diſcovery of a Southern Continent 476
Queſtion, whether Lord G—S— can be tried by a court-martial 478

POETICAL ESSAYS.

Morning thoughts on war, peace, &c. 481
An ode on Celia 482
The pidgeon's choice 483
The caſe ſtated; a tale ib
An ode on our late ſucceſſes 484
On the autumn ib
An epigram; on a certain great general ib

HISTORY.

Affairs in Perſia, Turkey and Poland 485
Motions of the Ruſſians, Pruſſians and Auſtrians 486
Battles of Torgau and Corbitz 487-88
Motions of the French and allied armies 489
Affairs in Sweden, Pomerania and Spain 491
Siege of Madraſs raiſed 493
Operations at Quebec ib
Affairs in Scotland 495
Captures on both ſides 497-98
Marriages, births, deaths, promotions 498-99
New books with remarks and extracts 500

OCTOBER.

Deſcription of the mines, and mine-towns in Saxony 508
— of Berlin, and the King's palace 510-11
Cauſes and prevention of the ſmut in wheat 518
Eſſay, to prove that the Chineſe are an Egyptian colony 519
A contrivance for maſcular exerciſe 523
A new method of cultivating long and fine flax 524

The

The conſtruction of an electrical harpſicord 525
A defence of Voltair's optimiſt 526
Reflections on the conqueſt of Quebec 528
Story of Gelaleddin, an Eaſtern Scholar 530
Preſervatives againſt hunger and thirſt 532
Review of the Engliſh magazines 532
Two extraordinary caſes of Gall-ſtones 534
Solution of a mathematical queſtion 535
Two arithmetical problems ib-536
Letter concerning the late comet ib

POETICAL ESSAYS.

An ode to fame, on the battle of Minden 537
On an officer killed before Quebec ib
The logicians confuted by Dr. Swift 538
The farmer and pidgeon, a fable ib
The pen 539
A ſong on the 5th November ib
On ſleep 540
To the memory of Gen. Wolfe ib
Epigram on M. Thurot's ſquadron ib

HISTORY.

Account of the battle of Corbitz 541
Motions of the Ruſſians and Pruſſians ib
Operations of the French and Allies 544
Affairs in Portugal and the Eaſt-Indies 545
Operations of the Britiſh and French troops before Madarſs 547
Gen. Wolfe's letter on the operations near Quebec 548
Adm. Saunders' letter on the ſame ſubject 552
Gen. Townſhend's account of the battle of Quebec, &c. 554
Affairs in Scotland 559
Marriages, births, deaths 560

NOVEMBER.

DEſcription of the beautiful iſland of St. Helena 564
Deſcription of the K. of Pruſſia's country-ſeats 569
The life of Mr. John Gay, the celebrated poet 571
Remarkable inſtance of cruelty and benevolence 575
Extracts from M. de Belleiſle's letter to M. de Contades, &c. 577
A ſketch of the character of Gen. Wolfe 579
— his inſtructions to his battalion, in 1755 580
The inſufficiency of fire-arms for attack or defence 583
Directions for the ſowing of land 585
Gen. Townſhends ſentiments of a national militia 588

POETICAL ESSAYS.

Ode on his Majeſty's birth-day 589
The tears of Britannia ib
Charge of the Bp of *** to his clergy 589
Eliæ Palairet carmen 590
Eſſay to an epitaph on Gen. Wolfe 591
Verſes in praiſe of ale ib
A new ſong, ſet to muſic by two Scots gentlemen 592

HISTORY.

Account of the battle of Pretſch 594
Diſaſter of Gen. Firck and his corps 595
Account of the ſurrender of Munſter 596
Affairs in Pomerania and Italy 597
— in Spain and France 598- 99
Gen. Yorke's memorial to the States-Gen. 600
Count d'Affry's counter-memorial 602
Declaration of the Kings of Britain and Pruſſia 605
Affairs in the Eaſt-Indies ib
Operations in N. America 604
Affairs in England 607
Britiſh captures 610
Marriages, births, deaths, promotions ib-611
New books, with remarks 612

DECEMBER.

HIſtory of the penitents in the Magdalen-houſe 617
Reflections on his Majeſty's meſſage 620
Ornaments proper for Gen. Wolfe's monument 621
A ſpirited letter to two great men on the proſpect of peace 623
Humorous reaſons for reſtoring Canada ib
Rationale of the ſtocks and public funds in England 630
Complaints of the grievances in the navy 632
Account of the Sabbatical river 634
The ſepulchral lamps of the Romans 638
Surpriſing phenomina in a mine in Saxony ib
Conſtruction of a ſhip, to prevent her ſinking ib
Of the culture of wheat 639
Oration, by the public orator at Rome, in favours of Chev. Taylor 642
Anſwer to the mathematical queſtion (535) 644

POETICAL ESSAYS.

An ode on Chriſtmas day 645
The Year Fifty-nine, a ſong ib
Ode on Frederic III. K. of Pruſſia 646
The phaeton and one-horſe-chaiſe, a fable 647
Addreſs to A—w T—s St—t, Eſq; 648

HISTORY.

Auſtrian account of Gen. Fink's defeat 649
Defeat of Gen. Diercke near Meiſſen 650
Motions of the Pruſſians and Auſtrians 651
— of the French and allied armies 652
Defeat of the Wittenberg troops at Fulda 655
Affairs in Italy and the Eaſt-Indies 655- 56
— in America 658
Invaſion of the back-ſettlements, by the Cherokees ib
Defeat of the French fleet by Adm. Hawke 661
Account of the riot in Dublin 664
— of the militia act for Scotland 665
Britiſh and French captures 667- 68
Marriages, births, deaths, and promotions ib 669
New books, with remarks and extracts 670

SUPPLEMENT.

HIſtory of affairs in Perſia 673
— in Turkey 672
— in Ruſſia ib
— in Germany 676
— in Italy and Portugal 695
— in France and Holland 696
Succeſs of the Britiſh arms abroad 698

INDEX

ACT, Habeas Corpus debated 1, 45, 102. The fortreſs of our liberty 4
Acts, abſtracts of: of the Act for the relief of debtors 292. Of that of a militia for Scotland 665, *See* Parliament
Addreſſes of the Lords 658. Of the Commons 660
Agriculture, Experiments and improvements in, 16, 105, 218, 585. Method of managing ſtiff ſoil 106. Of managing light ſoil 107
Allegory, a poetical one 123, 25
America, N. affairs there 38, 87, 143, 44, 260, 61, 434, 93, 603, 57. Fort Du Queſne taken 38. Preparations there 321. Nigara taken 434. Ticonderoga and Crown-point reduced by Gen. Amherſt 435. Of the Britiſh conqueſts there 625. Arguments for retaining them ib
Americans N. obſervations on the 71. Their language and poetry 72. Their manner of life 261
The America, a Dutch veſſel, trial of 261
Amherſt, Gen. the proceedings of 143. His ſucceſs *See* America
Aram, Eugene, the life, genius and education of 436. His trial 437. His ſpeech to the judge and jury 438. His confeſſion and execution 441. A remarkable paper found in his cell ib
Armentieres and Contades M. their communication ſtopt 491
Aſtronomy, cometical obſervations on 235
Atterbury, biſhop, his letter to his ſon 71
Auction of books of humour 475
Aulicenſis, Marcus, ſpeech of 102, 03
Auſtrians, their military proceedings 34, 85, 140. Preparations 84. Defeated at Plauen ib. Retake Hirchfeld 140. Loſe ſeveral ſkirmiſhes with the Pruſſians ib. Defeated by Gen. Wunſch 487. Routed by Pr. Henry 594. Surround the Pruſſians 595. Motions of both armies ib. Their operations 651, *See* Germany, battles
Aveiro, Duke of, *See* Portugal
Axioms of philoſophy explained, for the uſe of ladies 130, 131
Belleiſle, Duc de, his letter to M. de Contades 432. Extracts from more of his letters to him 577, 78
Baron, Capt. the ſufferings of 455
Battles, of Bergen 197. Thornhauſen 373. Covelt ib. Connersdorf 426. Niagara 435. Corbitz 488. Torgau 487. Quebec 554. Prettſch 594. Maxen 595. Meiſſen 656
Beardmore, Mr. the trial of 90
Beck, Lt. Gen. his advantages over the Pruſſians 194
Berlin, a humorous letter from thence 368. A conſpiracy to burn it diſcovered ib. A deſcription of it 510. Of the king's palace 511. Of the public edifices 568. Of the kings country-ſeats 569
Beſtuchef Rumin, Count the trial of 249
Bill, the regiſtring, conſiderations on 94
Births, monſtrous, the cauſes of 115
Bombay, ſtrange phænomena there 637
Boſcawen, Adm. ſails for the Mediterranean 262. His operations off Toulon 321. Defeats M. de la Clue 442. Preſented with the freedom of Edinburgh 666.
Brandenburg, a deſcription of the towns in 570
Bremen, the Landgrave of Heſſe arrives at 313
Britain, happineſs of, 60. A proof of its proſperity 129
Broglio, Duc de, operations of, 196, 97. Encamps at Saxenhauſen 253. Takes Rittberg caſtle 313. And reduces Minden by ſurprize 596. His deſign on the allied army fruſtrated 654
Brunſwick, hereditary Pr. of, his gallant behaviour, 197 Defeats the D. de Briſac at Crevelt 373. Harraſſes the French 544. Routs the Wittemberg troops at Fulda 653. Joins the K. of Pruſſia 654
Buckeburg, Ct. de la Lippe, takes Munſter 596
Bumper, the word, etymology of, 302
Cagvi minor, *See* Sanglin
Canada, humorous reaſons for reſtoring 628
Caractacus, a tragedy, *See* Maſon
Carlsbadt, a fire there 312
Caſſel, diſtreſſed by the French 314. Taken by the Allies 433
Carribbee iſlands, *See* Guadaloupe
Cat, one living without drink 67
Cherokees invade the back ſettlements 658. Governor Lyttleton's reſolution of defence ib
Chineſe proved to be an Egyptian Colony 519, 21
Chriſt, evidences of his wiſdom 340. Of his doctrine of the Sabbath-day 341
Circuit-courts, times and places appointed for 323. Trials at 423, 499.
Clarendon, Ld. his deſcription of the Toros 330. Danger attending that romantic entertainment 332. His father's remarkable diſorder and death 357
Clavering, Brig, his letter on the reduction of Guadaloupe 317
Clover roots, the benefit of preſerving 219
Combrune's art of brewing, remarks on 51
Comet, expected, memoirs on the 54. Conjectures on the uſe of them 237, concerning the comet 1759, Delineation of its path 536. Seen at Boſton 261. At London 262
Continent, a ſouthern, diſcovered 477
Conſtantinople, a fire there 81
Cor-maſs, a deſcription of the 281
Cromwell, Oliver, the character of, by the Abbot de St. Pierre 473
Crown-point taken 435
Cruelty and benevolence, a remarkable inſtance of 573. Reflexions on 576
Cures performed without medicines 291
Dantzickers, afraid of the Ruſſians 82

Daun, M. goes to Bohemia 141. Arrives at the army 194. His motions ib. 250, 545, *See* Germany, Prussia
Denmark, affairs there 254
Diercke, Gen. defeated at Meissen 650. Wounded and taken prisoner 651
Digby, Sir Kenelme, a surprising cure by 290
Distilling fresh water from salt, method of 296
Diversions, their influence on morals 329
Dohna, Ct. his operations against the Swedes 83. His manifesto 309, 63. Resigns 366
Dresden, a description of its curiosities 396,444, 630. Siege of 429. Taken 487
Drill machines, the advantage of 221
Dumfries, the magistrates of, insulted 559
Dunkirk, arguments for the demolition of 624
Dutchman, the surprising escape of a 565
Earth, its present situation the best 69
Edinburgh, a plan for extending the royalty of 377. Opposition to that plan 495. Procession of the free-masons there 666
Edmondson, Mary, the trial of 202. Her life and character 213. Behaviour during her confinement 215, 16
Education, antient and modern compared 18, 19
Elgin, several pieces of old gold coin found in 378
Elisabeth, Q. character of 15
Embden, English transports arrive at 491
England, affairs there 39, 90, 144, 261, 322, 75, 441, 94, 607. Convention between his Majesty and the K. of Prussia 39. Several fleets fitted out ib. Supplies granted 90. Medal in honour of Pr. Ferdinand's victory near Minden 494. Pacific declaration of his Majesty and the K. of Prussia 605. King rewards the captains who bring the news of the taking of Quebec 608. Reflections on his Majesty's message, &c.
English proud 8. Excelled by the French in grace of deportment ib. Good natured and sincere ib
Engraving, the art of 276, 77
Erfurth, *See* Knobloch
Essay on pleasures 328. On entertainments 329
Etrées, M. de, his conference with M. de Contades 489
Exercise, muscular, an useful contrivance for 523
A Fable, adapted to the times 242. *See* Linnæus
A Family receipt, by an old physician 188
Fasts, national, reflections on 12, 13
Ferdinand, Pr. his proceedings 85, 197. Retreat after the battle of Bergen 253. His army in motion 254. The situation of his camp at Lipstadt 312. Attempts to surprize the French 372. Defeats them at Thornhausen 373. His order of thanks after the battle, 429. Pursues the advantage of that victory 433. Elected a knight of the order of the garter 442. Installed 611
Fermor, Gen. goes to Petersburg 82. Number of his army 193. Surmises concerning him 310. Cause of his resigning 364
Finck, Gen. joins the King with 12,000 men 654. With his troops surrounded and taken 595. Account of it 649
Fire-arms, insufficient for attack or defence, 583. Pike and target recommended 585
Flax, long and fine, a new method of cultivating 527
Fouquet, Gen. his preparations 83
France, affairs there 37, 256, 314, 599. Duc de Broglio succeeds Pr. Soubise 35
French, their severity complained of in Hesse 35. Preparing flat bottomed boats 36. Tax payable to the grand admiral abolished ib. Preparations for an invasion 257, 515. Flat-bottomed boats described ib. French account of the battle of Thornhausen 430. His Majesty's consternation after that battle 433. Their retreat after the battle 489. Motions of both armies 490. Their fleet insulted by the English off Brest 495. Threaten to fell the forest of Lipstadt, &c. 597. King sends his plate to the mint 599. Stops payment ib
Instances of French perfidy 624. Operations of their armies 682. Their vanity and presumption 8. Surpassed by the English in virtue ib. Polite and well humoured 9
Francis Assizes of Tavora, *See* Portugal
Franche-Comte, that province distressed 257
Francfort, distressed by the French 86
Fulda, *See* Pr. of Brunswic
Gall-stones, two extraordinary cases of 534
Gay, Mr. life of 571, 574. His death and epitaph 575
Gelaleddin, the story of 530
General assembly, its proceedings, Ld. Cathcart commissioner, and Dr. George Hay moderator 263. Proceedings relating to the parish of Logie ib. Passes three acts ib. Considers a memorial from the Synod of Glasgow 246. An overture concerning admitting students in divinity to trials ib.
Gentle, Molly, her story 126
Gentleman, the reputed one 471
Georgia, account of the heat there 353
Germany, affairs there 34, 83, 140, 194, 249, 367, 486, 541, 64. The Austrians attempt to cut off the K. of Prussia's communication with Silesia 34. Damgarten surrenders to Count Dohna ib. Gen. Manteuffel invests Demin and takes it 35. Prussians affected with an epidemical distemper 83. Their preparations ib. Motions 141. Situation of the allies 254. French enter Cassel 312. Motions and operations of both armies 368, 69. French take Munster and Minden 371. Imperial army makes incursions into Brandenburg 428. Amount of the allied army 597, *See* battles, &c.
Gilchrist, Capt. made a citizen of Glasgow 559
Gemmingen, Lt.-Gen. taken prisoner 594

Glaſgow, ſeveral perſons committed to goal there 39. The magiſtrates petition 91
God, his exiſtence demonſtrated 163, 66
Goree, arguments for reſtoring of 626
Goſſamer, obſervations on the 415
Governments, arbitrary, no lenity in 61. Arguments againſt military ones 628
Grain, an inſtance of the tranſmutation of 67, 474
Grants for the year 1759 305
Graveſend, horſes and troops embarked from thence for Germany 70
Grypſwalde, the laboratory there blown up 254
Guadaloupe, an account of its being taken 87, 89. A deſcription and natural hiſtory of it 137. Progreſs of the Britiſh troops upon it 260. Farther accounts of the taking of it 315. Its capitulation 318. Arguments for reſtoring it 626
Guaſco, Count, ſeizes a Pruſſian waggon 84
Gueſt, George, gains a wager for walking 90
Haddick and Beck, Generals, march to Brandenburg 428
Hallelar, Cornelius Peter, his magnificent marriage 182, 83
Halſey, Joſeph, his barbarity 145. His execution 144
Hannocks, Suſanna, accuſed of witchcraft 91
Hanover in conſternation 315. Progreſs and ſucceſs of the allied army 433. *See* Germany and Pr. Ferdinand
Harpſichord, electrical, the conſtruction of an 525
Hawke, Adm. his operations off Breſt 375. Defeats the French fleet off Belleiſle 661. Liſt of both fleets 663
Helena, St. a deſcription of 564, 66
Henry, Pr. his expedition into Bohemia 195. Into Franconia 250. Defeats a corps of the army of execution ib. His ſucceſs and retreat 252. Defeats Gen. Count, Palfy 311. takes ſeveral Auſtrian magazines 489. His expeditious march into Saxony 542. The ſituation of his camp at Torgau 543. Defeats the Auſtrians at Pretſch 594.
Herculaneum, antiquities at 348, *See* Paderni
Heſſe, the French troops enter it 254. Pr. Ferdinand recovers it 435
Highlanders, their bravery at Quebec 559
Hill, Robert, his life 108
Hochendorf, Capt. defeats a body of Ruſſians 193
Holberg, memoirs of the famous 337
Holmes, Adm. ſails for New-York 90
Holland, the Dutch eſtimate of their loſs 37. The dike at Thom ſinks 30 feet 38. Affairs there 87. The States-general's declaration to Mr. Yorke 199. Send deputies to England 202. Their ſpeech ib. Inſtructions 257. Gen. Yorke's memorial 600. Ct. d' Affry's counter-memorial 601
Hoſpitals, foundlings entitled to the benefit of 65
Hughes, Commodore, ſails from Spithead 87
Hulſen, Gen. detached to reinforce Count, Dohna 311. Joins Pruſſian army 594
Huſbandry new, advantage of the 642. Old and new compared 162
Hutcheſon's philoſophy and divinity, a letter on 111, 13
Jerom, Don, of Alcaide, *See* Portugal
Ideas communicated by reflection 74. On the common idea of the character of a gentleman 470
Idler. on hiſtorical painting 224 On diſappointments in expected pleaſure 293. On poſthumous publications 346. A journal of three days employment 417. On impriſonment for debt 10, 11
Imhoff, Gen. undertakes the ſiege of Munſter 544, *See* Munſter
Imlac the poet, adventures of 221, 24, 84
Indies, Eaſt, affairs there 141, 259, 493, 602 Fort St David taken by Gen. Lally 142. His account of it ib. A naval engagement there 143. The French defeated in a ſecond 259. Siege of Madraſs raiſed 493. Adm. Pocock's engagement 546. His account of the proceedings there 547. Operations of the Britiſh and French troops before Madraſs 547. Letters from thence intercepted 602. Surat taken 603, 657. The attack and raiſing the ſiege of Madraſs 656
Inſolvents, propoſals for relief of 59, 187
Ireland, an account of the riot at Dublin 664
Iſemburg, Pr. ſlain 198
Italy, affairs there 254, 655. The Pope's diſpoſal of the Jeſuits 597. Creates 23 new cardinals ib
Keith, M. funeral proceſſion of 36. Memoirs of him 119, 23
Kennedy, William, concerning raiſing flax ſeed 189
A King's beſt ſecurity, Lenity and moderation 62
Kirchberg, Maj. killed 488
Knobloch, Gen. takes Erfurth 140
Knoch, Lieut. *See* Fire-arms
Konigſtein, a deſcription of the caſtle of 463. An enormous caſk there 464
Lally, Gen. *See* Eaſt Indies
Land in good heart, a calculation of the produce of 50 Directions for ſowing 586
Language written and ſpoken, the difference between 238
Lantinghauſen, Gen. reſigns 254
The Law, cuſtom of reading it among the Jews 229. The King's manner of reading it 230
Learning, French and Engliſh compared 281
Leipſic capitulates 428. A deſcription of it 465. Gen. Wunſch recovers it 488.
A letter on a proſpect of peace 625. The articles of peace to be made in a dead language 627
Levant, deſcription of ſeveral places there 294.
Liberty, political, an Eſſay on 278
Life, days and years a repreſentation of 69
Lima, why it never rains there 461
Linnæus, a fable by 125

land

Lion an old Engliſh one, his laſt ſpeech 243
Lodge, St. Regulus, erected 203 Another, *See* Scotland
London, illuminations there, and the Ld Mayor's addreſs to his Majeſty on the taking of Quebec 607. A dreadful fire 608
Louiſburg, arguments for deſtroying the fortifications of 625
Macpherſon, Malcom, the valiant Highlander, an account of 666
Madraſs, *See* Eaſt Indies
Madrid, the King of the two Sicilies proclaimed there, by the title of Don Carlos III. 492
Magazines, a general review of 535
Magdalene-houſe, hiſtory of the penitents there 617, 20
Magliabechi of Florence, life of 55
Magnetiſm and polarity given to braſs 407
Malagrida, Gabriel, *See* Portugal
Manteuffel, Gen. takes Pennamunde 96. Defeats the Swedes in ſeveral ſkirmiſhes 397
Mary, Q. her character 14
Maſon, Mr. his Charactacus, a criticiſm on 296, 302
Maubert, Lewis John de, 325. Projects the deſtruction of the K. of Poland 326. Is ſeiſed, impriſoned and ſentenced to be hanged 327. Inſtances of his villainy and ingratitude 398. Comes to England as a ſpy 457. Robs a clergyman and ſwears a robbery againſt him 458. Withdraws into Holland 459. Baniſhed thence, and turns Bruſſel's gazette er ib
Maupertuis, his letter to the K. of Pruſſia on the progreſs of the ſciences 404, 06, 59, 512, 518
Meiſſen, a deſcription of 463
Mercury, his ſearch after concord and diſcord, a fable 4, 7
Merſeburg, a ſtrange phænomenon there 650
Methodiſm and enthuſiaſm, their cauſe and increaſe 167
Meyer, Gen. particulars of his life 337
Militia, national, Gen. Townſhends ſentiments on a 588
Moderation recommended in the heat of conqueſt 472
Monckton, Gen. wounded at Quebec 553. His letter to Mr. Pitt ib
Munſter taken by the Allies 371 596. Evacuated by the French 432
Naples, his Catholic Majeſty ſails from thence to take poſſeſſion of the crown of Spain 522. Report of phyſicians about the Pr. Royal ib
Nations, uncivilized, beſt chriſtians 233
Navy, complaints of the grievances in the 632. A remedy by erecting cenſors 634
News-papers, a parody on 419.
News-writing, a modern way of 420
Niagara, an account of its being taken 434
Nieuport and Oſtend, arguments for recovering them from France 627
Noel, Gen. preſident at a court-martial 90
Novum Aratrum, a Dutch veſſel, her trial 262
Ocean, Southern, a remarkable diſcovery in the 476
Oeconomy, national, arguments for 76
Old-age, advantages of 350
Olmutz, its fortifications augmented 84
Opinion public, its mutability 291
Oran, inveſted by the Moors 256
Oſtrich, its ſtrength 132
Paderborn, the French arrive at 313
Paderni, Camilla, his account of the late diſcoveries of the Antiquities at Herculaneum 348
Parliament riſes 263. Hiſtory of the ſeſſion 1758. 9, 389. 449, 506. Directions concerning elections 390. Briſtol and Sarum, their petition for prohibiting the exportation of grain 391. Of the bill for the exportation of ſalt-beef &c. from Ireland 392. The malt diſtillers in London petition againſt the bill prohibiting diſtilleries 391. Supplies granted 396. Proceedings on the militia bill ib. Reſolutions on the weights and meaſures 393. Of the bill for the land-tax ib. Of the bill for the malt-duties ib. Addreſs to Ad. Boſcawen 394. Of the bill for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion 395. His Majeſty's addreſs to the Houſe of Commons for ſupplies 450. Reſolutions for raiſing them 451, 52. Method of drawing the lottery ib. Additioanl tax on coffee, tobacco, &c. 452. Proceedings concerning the importation of Iriſh cattle ib. Of the bill for the relief of priſoners 453. Of the bill for taxing offices, penſions, &c. 506. Reſolutions concerning the poor in England ib. Of the bill for preventing the importation of French cambries and lawns 507. Reſolutions concerning the augmentation of judges ſalaries 561. His Majeſty's meſſage 563 The commons reply ib. His Majeſty's anſwer 608
Peace, the neceſſity of a 471
A Peaſant frozen to death, his recovery 234
Perſia, affairs there 485
Perſons drowned, method of recovering 68
Place-men, reaſons for aboliſhing 617
Planetary ſyſtem, the pleaſure of ſurveying the 239
Plays revived, their character 185. Character of the players 186
Platen, Col. deſtroys a Ruſſian magazine 139
Pocock, Ad. *See* Eaſt Indies
A Poet, his neceſſary qualifications 285
Poland, affairs there 485
Poor men, heirs of freedom 1
Portugal, proceſs againſt the conſpirators 20, 24. Ringleaders condemned 26, 28, 254 His Majeſty's endeavours to extirpate the Jeſuits 255. Tranſports 187, 545. Inſtances of the Portugueſe miſtaken notions of honour 63
Premiums adjudged by the Edinburgh ſociety 40, 92
Preaching, an eſſay on the origin and advancement of 227. Its improvements and eſtabliſhment 231, 338. Manner of it by the apoſtles 343
Pride and vanity diſtinguiſhed 7 8
Problems, arithmetical 535, 36. Anſwers to the firſt 644

Pruſſia, King of, his diligence in levying men 83. Amount of his army 85. Sends 15,000 men under Gen Wopersnow into Poland 139. His letter about removing the priſoners 153. Diſpells the fear of the inhabitants of Grand Glogau 310. Encamps at Landſhut ib. M. Daun's deſcription of his camp 311. His letter to the Gov. of Schweidnitz concerning Gen. Kiau ib. Author of the memoirs of Brandenburg 410. His letter to the Queen 416. His behaviour at the battle of Cunnersdorff 427. Loſs he ſuſtained there 436. Operations of his army 489. Goes from his camp at Kuben to reinforce Pr. Henry 595. *See* Germany, Ruſſia

Publicola, Paulus, his ſpeech on the Habeas Corpus act 1

Pulpit, on the eloquence of the 303

Puniſhments, rigorous, bad conſequences of 61

Quadrupede, ſtrong imagination of one 114

Quebec, Adm. Durell ſails thither 322. French diligent in fortifying it ib. Liſt of the troops deſtined thither ib. Their operations and difficulties there 548. Unſucceſsful attack of the French 550. Account of the battle, and defeat of the enemy 554. Surrender and capitulation of the town 555, 556. Particular account of the action 605. Anecdotes on the ſiege and attack 606

Queſne, Fort du, a particular account of the expedition to 177, 179

Queſtion diſcuſſed, whether Ld G S—can be tried by a court-martial 478, 80

Queſtion, mathematical 304. Anſwer 358. Another ib. Anſwer 535

Ratiſbon, ferments in the diet there 199

River, Sabbatical, an account of the 634

Robbers, committed to goal 90

Rodney, Adm. his expedition to Havre 375

Rome, a deſcription of the pictures in the Vatican palace at 466

Romans, curious obſervations on the ſepulchral lamps of the 635

Ruſſia, affairs in that empire, and operations of its armies 33, 81, 139, 248, 309, 63, 425. A detachment of Huſſars defeated by the Pruſſians 33. Calmuck ambaſſador oddly dreſſed ib. Famine at Peterſburg 81. Amount of the army 82. 18,000 men enter the Pruſſian territories 248. Their motions 309, 64. Enter Pomerania 310. Journal of both armies 364. Ruſſian magazines deſtroyed 365. Defeat the Pruſſians at Cunnerſdorf 426. Motions of both armies 541

Ruſſians, their retreat to the Viſtula 652, *See* Germany

Sabbath-day, *See* the inſtitution and obſervation of 342

Sanglin, a deſcription of it 244

Sardinia, King of, reſolves to claim a part of the Milaneſi 36

Saunders, Adm. ſails for Quebec 321. His letter on the operations there 553. On its ſurrender 558. Encomiums on him 621

Saxony, a comet ſeen there 257. Deſcription of its mines and mine-towns 508. Surpriſing phænomons in a mine there 638

Schwerin inveſted by the Pruſſians 141

Schwerin, Chriſtopher, Ct. his life 169, 72. His behaviour at the battle of Prague, where he is killed 141. His reſignation, funeral, and perſonal character 175. His eminent abilities and unaffected piety 176

Schools, common boarding, reflexions on 66

Scotland, affairs there 39, 146, 495, 559

Sea, hints to provide againſt accidents at 70

Sea-men, the cauſes of our continual want of 75

Senegal, arguments for reſtoring 626

Ship, conſtruction of one, ſo as to prevent her ſinking 638

Signior, Grand, his charity 81

Smelling, ſurpriſing inſtances of that ſenſe 241

Schmettau, Count, his reſolution to defend Dreſden 428. Surrenders it 487

Sobrinus, Lucius, his ſpeech on the Habeas Corpus act 103

Solkowſky, Pr. taken priſoner 139

Soltikoff, Count, ſucceeds Gen. Fermor 364. Beats the K. of Pruſſia 427, *See* battle

Spain, affairs there 236, 492. Obſervations on the King's melancholy 13. His Father's habit of eating Venice treacle 14. His ſon's melancholy thought hereditary ib. His lingering illneſs and death 87. Succeeded by his brother 598

Stage, remarks on the 183. The poet's ſituation with the managers 184

State, the cauſes of the proſperity and declenſion of a 332

States, antient, their degeneracy applied to the preſent times 336

Stella, a Lady, the ſtory of 127

Stocks in England, rationale of the 630. Stock-jobbers, their odious character 632

Stolberg, Pr. dead 312

Sublime in writing, eſſay on the 9, 10

Succeſs, advice not to be too much elated with 530

Sweden, affairs there 196, 254, 492. Operations of the army 492. Pruſſian ſoldiers ſhipped for Carleſcroon, force the Swedes to carry the ſhip into Colberg 597

Swift, Dean, new anecdotes concerning 181

Taylor, Chevalier, the famous ophthalmiater, arrives in Scotland 559. An oration delivered in his favours by the public orator at Rome 642

Temples of the antients, reflections on 351, 56, 412. Deſcription of the firſt ones 413

Theatre, propoſals for promoting diſturbances at the 19

Thirſt and hunger, preſervatives againſt 532

Thuringia, *See* Knobloch

Townſhend, Gen. his account of the battle of Quebec 554. Of its ſurrender 556. Of the loſs ſuſtained there 557. Encomiums on him 621

Torgau, deſerted by the Pruſſians 429

Toros, or Bull-feaſt in Spain, 27 *See* Clarendon

Tull's husbandry examined 161
Turkey, affairs there 81, 363, 405. Plague breaks out at Constantinople 363. The Sultan issues an edict to number the strangers in his dominions 593
Vafer, Valerius, his speech on the Habeas Corpus act 159
Vanity, *See* Pride
Verden, Capt. intercepted 139
Vesuvius, mount, a dreadful eruption of 349
Vienna, affairs there 35
Ville, Gen. de, his motions 311
Virgil's 4th Eclogue, critical remarks on 57, 59
Vitriol, a new experiment on 38
Voltaire, M. de, curious anecdotes of 344, 47, 409. His encomium on the English ib. Remarks on his anecdotes 411 A defence of his optimism 526, 538. His grand entertainment on Quebec's being taken 597
Walker, Mrs. murdered 90
Wedel, Gen. engages the Russians 366. Beat ib
Wars, modern, reflexions on 232
Welke, the judge of, killed 83
Wheat, method to prevent the smut in 519. Culture of it 639
Wittenberg troops defeated 653
Wittenberg surrendered to the Austrians 429. Gen. Wunsch recovers it 487
Wolfe, Maj. Gen. reflexions on his capacity 528. On his conquest of Quebec 529. His letter on the operations at 548. His unsuccessful attack on the French intrenchments 550. Loss sustained in that attack 551. Placart on arriving in the river St. Lawrence 585. A sketch of his character by an officer 513. His instructions to his regiment 580 Is killed, *See* Townshend. His remains landed at Portsmouth 608. Inscription for his monument ib. Hints concerning the ornaments proper for it 621
Wopersnow, Gen. marches from Glogau 139. Takes Pr. Soikowsky ib. Destroys the Russian magazines 140. Reconnoitres the Russian army 384. Falls in battle 366
Wounds cured in the magnetical way 289. Remarkable instances of it ib
Wunsch, Gen. *See* Wittenberg
Wurtzen, the judges of, killed 83
Wylie, Mr. robbed 91
Yeomanry, vindication of the honours of 468
Yorke, Gen. his memorial to the States-General 201. *See* Holland
Ziethen, Gen. takes Fruidland 489.

[*For an Index to the poetry, see the general Contents.*]

INDEX *to the* MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, DEATHS, &c. 1759.

MARRIAGES.

A Boyne, E. 203
Adair 93
Bareith, Marg 610
Baynton 498
Bathurst 323
Biscoe, 498
Bligh 203
Brudenell 94
Campbell ib
Cappar 266
Cheape ib
Combe 381
Compton 443
Cornwallis 94
Conolly 41
Couts 203
Croft ib
Dawkins 610
Dalziel 266
Dunmore, E. 94
Elgin, E. 266
Ferguson 41
Fisher 203
Forbes 443
Forrester 668
Fraser 323
Gage 94
Gascoigne 381
Gordon 283
Griffith 323
Hall 560
Hamilton 94
Hardy 41
Hay 266
Herbert 443
Hume ib
King 498
Lockhart ib
Lumsden 323
M'Duff, E. 266
M'Donald 203 610
Marshal 94
Molesworth ib
Mornington ib
Mountenay 560
Muir 443
Musgrave 668
Northampton, E. 498
Norvel 323
Robertson 147
Roman 380
Rowley 203
Salmon 498
Shaftesbury 146
Shiffner ib
Shove 94
Stanhope 560
Sparke 390
Stewart ib
Sutton 148
Taylor 498
Taylor Dr. 610
Vernon 94
Weymouth V. 266
Waldegrave, E. ib
Walsingham 448
White 668
Wilson 380
Woodrow 203

BIRTHS.

Aberdour, L. 443
Adair L. Car. 668
Ancaster, D. 498
Ashburnham, C. 610
Bacon, L. 94
Balcarras, C. 610
Beauchamp, L. 94
Borret 41
Cam 443
Carpenter 266
Catheart, L. 668
Clifford, L. ib
Dalrymple 381
Dartmouth, C. 266
Dauphiness 560
Dawson, L. 443
Dick 266
Dillon, L. 373
Egmont, C. 668
Egremont, C. 560
Elliot 381
Essex, C. ib
Feversham, L. 323
Fingall, C. 498
Fitzroy 266
Huyder 560
Gouldie 148
Grenville 560
Hesse Darmstadt, Pss. 381
Hind-Cotton ib
Harborough, C. 203
Hopetoun, C. 41
Hume, L. 266
Keppel 323
Lauderdale, C. 41
Leven, C. 610
Ludlow, L. 41
Moss 148
Mountgarver, L. 498
Murray, L. 560
Murray 41
Pembroke, C. 498
Poland, Pss of 266
Pratt 94
Romney, L. 148
St. John, L. 498
Sardina, Q. of 498
Selkirk, C. 498
The Sultana 203
Sussex, C. 323
Torphichen, L. 610
Wedderburn 41
Westmeath, C. 203
Willoughby, L. 498

DEATHS.

Alexander 94
Allen 444
Annis 560
Anhalt Zerbst, Pss 324
Anstruther, L. 203
Asbruck, Esq; 94
Aston, L. 611
Baird 669
Barnaby 560
Bateman 324
Bell 499
Bentinck, L. 148
Berket 669
Birket 203
Bishop of Fulda 499
Blackford ib
Blacket, L. ib
Bligh's, Gen. L. 204
Blow 498
Bourbon, Pss. of 381
Bowles ib
Boyle 499
Bragg 324
Brand 560
Brisbane 499
Brodie 499
Broderick 241
Broglio, D. his son 324
Brooke 679
Brookshank 204

Brown 94
Buchanan 669
Cahir, L. 381
Calendar 261
Cameron 324, 560,
Camoux 499
Campbell 41, 203, 610
Carmichael 669
Carew ib. 499
Caroline, Pss 443
Carſtairs 94
Chalmers 41
Chandois, Dſs 443
Charlotta Auguſta Pſs 381
Charlton 669
Charles Emilius Pr. 148
Cleghorn 41
Conyers 560
Carberry, L. 94
Corſan ib
Coſins 204
De Courcy 669
Cox 260
Cunningham 443
Da-Coſta 148
Dalglieſh 443
Dalrymple 381
Daly ib
Davidſon Murray 261
Denton 94
Doria, Cardinal ib
Douglas 41
D'Oyley 94
Drax, L. 324
Drummond 41, 94
Duchrae, L. 41
Dunlop 203
Eckerſal 204
Edwards 41
Elliot 444
Erſkine 204
Eſſex, Ctſs. of 381
Her Daughter ib
Farquhar 669
Ferguſon 41
Fitzwilliam, C. 261
Fleming 669
Fletcher 41
Foley 381
Forbes 203
Fotheringham 204
Fraſer 669
Gainſborough, E. 324
Gairden 444
Glaſs 94
Gordon ib
Goring 381
Grant 94, 148 261, 560
Grant, L. 204
Gregory 204
Haldane 498
Hamilton 148
Handel 204
Hanbury-Williams 611
Harriat 41
Harriſon 148
Hay 204
Hawley, Gen. 148
Heylen 444
Home 669
Hope 499
Hopkins, L. 94
Hopſon 266
Hopetoun, C. 41
Hulſe 204
Hunter 41
Imrie 381
Ingolſby 669
Irvine 41
Itzenplitz 499
Keith 381
Kennedy 443
Kinloch 669
Lambe 611
Lamego ib
Lawſon 148
Leckie 381
Legge 499
Leighton 324
Lind 148
Loch 611
Lockhart 560
Louiſa, Donna 669
Lucy 611
Lundie 610
Maddox 560
Malcolm 499
Manningham 148
Marling 610
Maxwell 499
M'Donald 148
M'Kay ib
M'Kenzie 204 611
Middleton 669
Milroy 611
Mitchel 94
Molyſon 41
Montgomery 324 384, 444
More 443
Murray ib
Nairn 444
Noble 204
Ogilvy 41
O'Hara 204
O'Neale ib
O'Neil 669
Orange, Pſs. 41
Orleans 94
Oſborne, Dſs 41
Parma, Dſs 669
Partridge 148
Paterſon 611, 699
Pembroke 443
Pepperell ib
Pereira 444
Perrin 324
Petrowna 203
Pinckney 610
Place 41
Pollington, C. D. 381
Pollock 261
Price 149
Pringle 324 444
Proctor 324
Purcell 381
Ramſay 281
Reid 148, 204
Rich ib
Roſe 281
Roſs 204
Ruſſel 41
Rutherford 324
Saliſbury 148
Sandilands 203
Saxe-Hildburghauſen 324
Saxe-Zeita 443
Scott 204, 381
Seton 204
Sexton 148
Sheils 267
Singleton 611
Spain, K. 444
Stopford 499
Stewart 267
Stillingfleet 444, 610
Strange, L. 94
Sutherland 267
Tavannes Ct. 148
Taylor 94, 499
Thompſon 148 381
Tindal 499
Torrington, L. 148, 499
Vere 611
Vilant 194
Villates, M. de 499
Vinant 267
Walda 381
Wallop, L. 148
Wardrobe 324
Warwick, E. 499
Watkins 94
Webſter 669
Whiſton 204
Wedderburn 41
Williams 204
Wilſon 56
Wolfe, Gen. 560
Wolfe Bar. 610
Wood 204
Yorke 381.

PROMOTIONS.

Adams 261
Addington 445
Ainſley 267
Akinſide 204
Amherſt 500
Andrews 94
Appelton 444
Archibald 383
Babige 383
Bailie 267
Buley 611
Balcanquhal 95
Banbury 382
Barrington ib
Barnes 445
Baron 204
Baſtide 443
Bellenden 150
Bentley 500
Berborough, E. 381
Bithard 611
Blair 445
Blount 383
Bolſter 382
Boone 611
Baſil 267
Boſcawen 95
Boſwell 95
Bouſhe 382
Bowes 267
Bowyer 150
Braco 204
Braditreet 382
Brereſford 95
Brooke 267, 583 E. 611
Brooks 382
Brown 382
Bruce 382
Buchanan 150
Buckley 383
Burges 150
Burniide 383
Burton 382
Butler ib
Calcut 500
Campbell 150, 2, 445
Conway 499
Carr 444
Cary 383
Chapman ib
Charles 381
Charleton 150
Chedworth, E. 94
Clarke 383
Colbroke 611
Commiſſioners of the cuſtoms 95
— of the exchequer 38
— of the exciſe 382
Cooke 150
Coote 267
Courtney 383
Croſton 383
Crotty 150
Crump 382
Cullen 95
Cumberland 382
Cunningham 150
Dalrymple 381
Davenport 150
Davis 382
Delancey ib
Delgarno 444
Derenzy 500
Dick 95 205
Dormer ib
Douglas 150, 267 382
Downe 150
Drayton ib
Duff. 383
Dunbar 382
Duncan 150
Dundas 267
Edgecombe, L. 95
Edinburgh, magiſtrates of 500
Eglinton, E. 450
Elliot 267
Erſkine 95, 267
Evely 150
Evelyn 267
Eyre 159
Farquhar 150
Ferdinand, Pr. 611
Ferguſon 382
Fitter 611
Fluyder ib
Forfar 150
Forteſcue 267
Frankland 383
Fraſer 382

Furye 488
Gabbet ib
Gallatin 382
General, Lieut. 445
— Maj. 500
Gerard 382
Gideon 381
Gingan 382
Gisborne 204
Glynn 500
Gordon 150, 444 499
Gore 382
Goring 150
Graham ib
Granby, M. 445 500
Grant 93. 382, 445
Grenvile ib
Griffins 382
Griffith 267
Guinet 383
Haggart 267
Halcombe 499
Hall 267
Halliday 95
Halket 138
Hamilton 267 499
Hampden 95, 38
Harrison 382
Hatton 383
Hawker ib
Hervy 95
Hill 444
Hinchinbroke 267
Holles 381
Holmes 611
Home 150
Honeywood 382
Hope 267
Houghton 383
Houston 150
Hudson 499
Hunt ib
Jackson 385
Jardin 499
Jedderel 150
Jennings 445
John 382
Johnson 611
Johnston 382, 383
Jones 382
Kay 669
Kellet 150
Kelly 294
Kingston 444
Kinnoul, E. 613
Laulke 150
Laving ib
Law 267
Laws 444
Lincoln, E. 95
Ligonier 145
Lewis ib
Legrand 381
Lindsay 750
Lloyd 611
Lockhart 382
Lorn 95
Luke 150
Lutterel 444
Lyttleton 611
Macral 267
Madden ib
Maitland 445
Manwaring 444
Massey 150
Matthews 445
Mawhood 267
Mayhood 150
M'Lean ib
M'Leod 383
M'Kenzie 267 372
M'Kinnon 150
M'Knight 205
M'Queen ib
Melvil 382
Menzies 287
Members of Parliament 95
Millbank 150
Milburn 204
Millar ib
Milner 383
Mitchel 150
Mocker ib
Montagues 444
Mordaunt 150
Murray ib
Murray Keith 445
Nairn 95
Nangle 297
Nathaniel 500
Neilson 383
Newcastle, D. 381
Newton 95, 669
Nugent 383
Oakes 150
Ogle 267
Officers in Montgomery's 267
—— in Fraser's ib
—— in L. J. Murray's ib
—— in his additional companies 383
—— in the Royal Americans 267
—— in the volunteers 444
—— in Argyleshire ib
—— in E. of Sutherland's 669
—— in Murray Keith's ib
Orby Hunter 95
Osborne 383
Otway 382
Parker ib
Paton 445
Paterson 382
Pattison 150
Pemberton 445
Pembroke 267
Pichel 150
Pitt 382
Pownal 611
Pratt 382
Predaux 150
Preston ib
Pringle 204
Price 267
Probyn 382
Richardson 204
Rigby 611
Roberts 383
Robertson 150 204, 500
Robinson 204
Roy 445
Russel ib
Rutherford L. 267
Sandys, L. 95
Sarly 383
Sawyers 611
Saxton 382
Scott ib
Shaw 204
Shirley 267
Simpson 150
Sinclair ib, 383
Skeen 383
Smith 382
Spittal 150
Stewart ib
Strevely ib
Stoughton 383
Stuart 382
Sutherland, E. 445
Taylor 204
Tonyn 267
Toovey 382
Townshend 267 444
Treby 159
Tyrawley 182
Vane. 150
Verchild 383
Vernon 95
Waldegrave 150 500
Wall 382
Wallace 205
Waller 382
Walpole 444
Walmsley ib
Webb 383
Warkworth, L. ib
West 150
Westmorland, E. 159
Whitfield 445
Whitley 382
Whitmore 150
Whyte 95
Whytt, 381
Wilkie 382
Williams 444
Williamson 150
Wilmot 95
Wilson 382
Wintringham 204
Wishart 205
Woodcock 95
Worge 699
Worth 583
Wrey 150
Wright 95
Yea 382
Yorke 150
Young 383

INDEX *to the* BOOKS &c. 1759.

*Of those marked thus * some account is given in this volume.*

CONTROVERSY, DIVINITY, MORALITY, and SERMONS.

ARnaldo's critical commentary 42
Baptism, new office of 612
Brown's christian guide 670
Bunyan's pilgrim's progress ib
Canon's view of death ib
* Charge to the clergy 445
Christian worship ib
Chrisostom, St. of the priesthood 612
Christ's sufferings considered 205
Edwards, on irresistible grace 42
Essay on human affections 206
Greenwood's exposition 612
* Hall's contemplations 42
Johnson's election of God 445
Latimer's discourses 612
Lavington on the gospel offer 445
Law's christian perfection 43
Letter from a church to their pastor 42
* —— from a blacksmith 205
* London, bishop's charge 272
Newton on prophecies 42
Old and new testament histories verified ib

Paton on the gospel 612
Pillington's remarks 42
Religion and virtue demonstrated 205
Review of the origin of evil 206
Robinson's visitation charge 612
Sermons by T. Amroy 670
——— by C. Buckley ib
——— by G. Green ib
——— by D. M'Queen 272
——— by Mr. Philips 42
——— by Mr. Rowney ib
Simple truth vindicated 640
Smith on moral sentiments 206
Squire on indifference about religion 42
Stock's essays on preaching Christ crucified 205
A Synopsis of Plato's works 42
Taylor's examination 205
Tonstall's academics 95
Warburton's remarks 205
Wesley's sermons 670
Whole duty of prayer 612
Historical and Miscellaneous.
Act of insolvency, observations on the 387
Affairs, situation of, considered 504
Ale-houses, shewn to be pernicious 672
Aliari's dictionary 44
Annual register 269
Answer to the Bp of London's charge 386
* Antidote against popular censure 445
* Apology for W— P— 42
——— for the clergy 670
Aram's trial 447
Atalantis for 1759 97
——— for 1760 672
Attorney's practice 383
——— duty 612
Barlow's works 44
Beller's ends of society 670
Bellicus 672
Bills of mortality 44
Black book 50
Blackstone's great charter 613
Blaid's military discipline 32
Book of fun 500
Brecknock's plan 670
Bremfield's narrative 613
Burton's monasticon eboracense 209
Brown's compleat farmer 324
* Butler's remains 384
Byng and S's case paralelled 504
Carey's memoirs 97
Chamber's architecture 206
Christianity inconsistent with happiness 672
Chronographia asiatica 44
The Comptroller 447
* Conduct of a noble Lord scrutinized 446
Conjunct expeditions 383
Corinna vindicated 206
Cowley's appendix to Euclid 98
Critics criticised 44
* Crookshanks, Capt. pamphlet relating to 206
Davis' state of education 206
De l'Esprit 383
Dialogues on the age of Elisabeth ib
The Discovery 500
Dish of all sorts 672
Dun's lectures 384
Edmunds on landing forces 97
English pericles 98
English and portuguese spelling-book 670
Epistle to a free doctor 386
Essay on the superiority of the present age 44
——— on brewing ib
——— on health 98
——— on inventing landskips 150
——— on taste 324
Fage's form of discipline 98
Family account-book 672
Fernworth's history 42
Fitzroy's letter to Ld G— S— 503
* Formey's philosophical miscelanies 384
Free mason's secret 97
——— masonry dissected 670
Frontenac, account of the expedition to 219
Garrioch's defence 613
Geographical dictionary 387
Grief of a tory 98
Guadaloupe, account of the expedition to 613
Harleian manuscripts 44
Hawkin's miscelanies 97
Hillar's discoveries 67
Hill's vegetable system 447
History of Ben. St. Martin 44
——— of arts and sciences 98
——— of years 1756, and 57 ib
——— of England 150
——— of Ambrose Guys 324
——— of Athens 383
Holiday's introduction 44
Horses, treatise on the disease of 387
Hours Amusement 387
Jesuit's doctrine 208
Ince and Maybew's system of furniture 387
Journal of Christian Frederic 383
Reddington's criticism of Homer 672
Lamentation of the French 502
Lee's meditations 98
Leisure hours employed 324
Letter to Dr. Smollet 95
——— from Rousea to d'Alembert 44
——— to W— P— ib
——— to Mr. Gray 98
——— to Mr. Jones 269
——— to the author of the orphan of China ib
——— to Orator Sheridan 324
——— from the Dutchess of M. 385
——— Defence of it ib
——— to St. Dunstan inhabitants 446
* ——— to a commander in Germany ib
——— to Romaine 500
* ——— to Lewis le Petit ib
——— to the Norfolk militia 501
——— to M. de Belleisle ib
——— to the Paddington inhabitants 504
* ——— to the Marquis of Granby 504
——— to a certain great man ib
——— to M. de Contades 613
* ——— to William Pitt 677
* ——— from an officer 671
——— from Belleisle 672
Life of Gustavus Adolphus 150
— of Belisarius 269
— of Wykeham 342
* — of the E. of Clarendon 386
Lives of the principal reformers 206
Lowth, Dr. answer to a letter to 383
Mallet's works 150
* Martinico, on the expedition to 384
Massie on the sugar trade 52
Mathematical miscellany 209
Merchants advocate 383
Method of raising flowers 44
Military dictionary 671
* ——— history of Germany and England 272
Militia, instructions for the 209
Minister, present, libel against the 386

Miscellany

Miſcellany for the beau monde 384
Modern univerſal hiſtory 42
Money borrowing 613
Monitor, the true ib
Monro's anſwer to Akenſide 208
Morris' plan 672
Murdin's collection 44
Naval chronicle 383
* Navy, to ſupply the, without preſſing 445
Newman's works 613
News-readers pocket-book 150
Nunnery parrot 44
Obſervations on Engliſh authors ib
——— on bathing ib
* Operas, ſtate of in England
* Orange, Princeſs of, her character 383
Orations in praiſe of Athenians 98
Penſylvania, conſtitution of 383
Perfect's gardening 383
Philoſophical miſcellanies ib
Plea for the poor 208
Polite learning inquired into 209
* ——road to an eſtate 324
Portugueſe conſpirator's ſentence 97
Preſent ſtate of Britain 268
Price's Britiſh carpenter 44
Ralph's ſchool of Raphael 268
Reaſons for a general peace 672
Reflexions on the law, &c. 44
Regiſtring bill conſidered 98
* Religion and virtue demonſtrated 383
Richards, Britiſh dictionary 152
* Robertſon's hiſtory of Scotland 42
Robinſon's account of reſidence in Hudſon's bay 98
Ruſſel's hiſtory 43
Sackville, L. his addreſs 500. Vindication of himſelf 501. A reply ib
Salmon's ſcotch nobility 209
Schultz's account of inoculation 44
Scourge of pleaſure 97
* Sheridan's diſcourſe 383
* Shirley on the Portugueſe conſpirators ſentence 151
Smith's declaration 503
Spence's parallel 97
State intermediate, a diſcourſe on 613
Statutes for the Britiſh muſeum 44
Stillingfleet's miſcellaneous tracts 150
Taylor's map of Hampſhire 613
* Theatres, obſervations on 269
Treatiſe on ruptures 44
Treaty of convention for ſick and wounded 206
* Tree's remarks on Jones letter 208
Triumph in death 613
Ulpton's notes, eſtimate of 208
Verrol's cookery 613
Virtues of Honey 384
Voyage to Senegal 152
* Walpole's catalogue, remarks on 324
Ward's oratory 208
Weights and meaſures, report concerning 383
Weſtley's 9th journal 44
Wilkie's view of the ſtage 152
Winchester college 386
Wright's antiquities 98
Writing and drawing made eaſy 44
* Yeoman's abecedarian 269
Young on original compoſition 267

LAW, POLITICAL, BOTANY, PHYSIC, and MATHEMATICS.

Apology for whiſky 44
Barry's treatiſe of digeſtions 206
Britiſh miniſter's character 287
Cantillon's analyſies of trade 152
Delaware Indians, the cauſes of their revolt ib
Fluxions, treatiſe on 42
The Gardner's catalogue 206
Gout, a treatiſe on the ib
Grieves tranſlation of St. Cornelius Celſus of medicine ib
Hanway on augmenting mariners 152
Hill's exotic botany 206
— origin of proliferous flowers ib
Home's medical tracts and experiments 212
— principles of agriculture and vegetation ib
* Lee's treatiſe on captures at war 152
Lovet's Newton's æther realized 42
Maſſie on the ſugar-trade 152
M'Kenzies hiſtory of health 44
M'Laurin's obſervations on ſome points of Law 156
Mourning, diſſertation on 152
Navy, dialogues on the ib
Porterfield's treatiſe on the eye 156
Populouſneſs with œconomy 100
Peſtilence, inquiry into the cauſe of the 212
Taylor's, Chevalier, account of the diſeaſes of the eye 672
Univerſal gazzeteer 42

POETRY and ENTERTAINMENT.

Adventures of a turk 44
Anoſto's ſatyres 100
Ariſtophanes' comedy of the clouds ib
Art of preſerving, a poem 44
The Auction 672
Barret's tranſlation of Ovid 43
Baſheville's Milton's poetical works ib
The Beldames, a poem 44
Bibliomachia ib
The Brothers 43
Cæſar's deſcent on Britain 616
Caliſta 388
The Campaign 44
* Candide 270
Caractacus 388
The Caſtle builders ib
Collection of modern poems 44
—— of Engliſh plays 448
—— of Scots tunes 504
Court intrigues 270
Creſſy, de M. hiſtory of 270
Cymbaline, a tragedy 100
* Daphnis and Menalcas 616
Dellwyn, Cts of, her hiſtory 212
Dormier's hiſtory 44
Duncombe's Horace 270
The Election, a poem 210
Eurydice, a tragedy ib
Father's advice to his ſon 388
The Feaſt of laughter 672
Franklin's Sophocles 388
Free maſon's ſongs ib
Gaſconado the great 270
Genuine happineſs 210
The Guardian 98
Hart's hymns 388
The Hero's philoſophy 44
High life below ſtairs 613
Hymn after ſore eyes 270
Horace b. 1. ode 22, imitated
Hudſon's odes ib
Jemina and Louiſa 388
Intriguing coxcomb 43
The invaſion, a farce 448
The Lady's advice 210
Letters from an old man to a young prince 44
Low life above ſtairs 210
Love feaſts 672
Marriot's female conduct 43

Maxwel's hymns 448
The Mother 210
Muſical companion 670
Ode on the late victory 504
——to the memory of Gen. Wolfe 616
Orphan of China 44
Phil and Harriot, a true ſtory 672
The Pittiad 240
Portia, the hiſtory of ib
The Pruſſiad 615
The Rival theatres 210
* *The* Rout, a farce 43
* Rout, Letter to the author of the ib
* Raſſelas, Pr. of Abyſſinia 210
Saxe's M. reveries 212
Songs at Vauxhall 388
* Southern's Oroonoko 670
Spring, on the approach of 270
Stalke, de memoirs of 100
The Subſcription ſoldier 672
Tablet of Thebes 388
Time, wiſdom, and glory, a poem 387
* True cauſe of a certain general officer's conduct 504
* Tyburn to the marine ſociety 270
Upton's Spencer's fairy queen
Wales, Princeſs of, verſes on her birth day 672
Wilkie's epigoniad 212

ERRATA.

Page	Col.	Line	
34	2	45	*for* he *read* we
35	2	21	*for* Padderburn *read* Paderborn
ib		25	*for* Caſtle *read* Caſſel
36	1	22	*for* Bride *read* Bridge
83	1	39	*delete* to
139	2	45	*for* Carcow *read* Cracow
592	2	8	*for* Mr. Aviſon *read* two Scots Gentlemen
425	1	15	*for* courage *read* plunder,

Directions to the BINDER.

Cut off the Covers, and place the general Title and Preface before the Magazine for January.

The PLATES fronting the following Pages.

	Page
Silvia, a piece of MUSIC, between	32 and 33
Map of SANAGA and GAMBIA	80
—— of GUADALOUPE and the CARIBEE ISLANDS	137
Print of the SANGLIN, or CAGVI Minor	245
Map of the River St LAWRENCE	294
Delineation of the path of the COMET	536
Chart of the BRITISH conqueſts in N. AMERICA	556
Retirement, a Piece of MUSIC	592
Chart of the FRENCH coaſt, exhibiting the place of Adm. HAWKE's engagement with CONFLANS.	661

The End of the THIRD VOLUME.